

## The New School Law.

The McKee school bill which passed the Legislature is a voluminous document, and as yet there is but scant general knowledge of its provisions outside of those directly engaged in school work. Some features of that part of the bill which the people of this town are recommended to adopt, are as follows:

The manner of making appropriations is an important feature. The law provides for a Board of School Estimates, consisting of the Mayor, two members of the Board of Education and two Aldermen. On or before the 15th day of May the Board of Education must deliver to the Board of Estimates a itemized statement of the amounts necessary for the current expenses of the public schools for the ensuing year, between the 15th of May and the 1st of June of each year the Board of Estimates must fix the amount to be appropriated. It is less than three-quarters of one per cent of the taxable valuation of the city, it must be granted by the Aldermen, but it must be approved by the Board of Education. The Board of Education must decide that it is necessary to raise money to purchase lands or erect, enlarge or repair school houses, the amounts needed must be submitted to the Aldermen, and they may concur or not, at their discretion. The law allows the Aldermen to provide money for these purposes by placing the amount in the annual tax levy, or by issuing bonds, but the amount of such bonds outstanding at one time must not exceed three per cent of the taxable valuation of the city.

The State Board of Education is made up of two members from each congressional District, who shall not be of the same political party. They are appointed by the Governor for five years and receive no compensation. The State Superintendent is appointed for five years at \$5,000 a year; formerly he received \$3,000 a year for three years. County Superintendents receive from \$1,300 to \$2,000, according to localities. The terms and salaries of City Superintendents are regulated by the local boards.

The local Board of Education has over to appoint, in addition to a superintendent and Secretary, a Business Manager to have charge of buildings and other property of schools. He must supervise plans for erection and repair, superintend advertisements for and letting of contracts, inspect all work done and materials supplied, and order to reject materials or supplies. A feature of the law of 1901, by which the census was abolished and the school money distributed on basis of attendance, is embodied in the new act. There is an allowance of \$600 given to every school district having a Superintendent of Schools. The law requires the election of a President and a Vice-President of the Board of Education. The former must be a resident of the district. In his absence or inability, such duties devolve upon the Vice-President. The custodian of school records is the City Treasurer.

There is a section compelling parents to send a child between seven and twelve years of age, in good bodily and mental condition, to send it to a school, unless excused for cause. Failure to comply with this section is punished by a fine of not more than \$1 nor more than \$25 for each child. "No child under fifteen years of age shall be employed in any business, trade, or profession, unless such child shall have been within twelve months immediately preceding such employment in a public or private school for five or more consecutive weeks." The Board of Education has full power to bring proceedings against any one violating the provisions. Increased power is given to truant officers to punish who are habitually absent from school.

## POLITICAL GOSSIP.

THE MEN WHO WILL LEAD THE FORCES ON TUESDAY.

Both sides confident of victory—Some chances that will influence voters—C. W. Powers and Dr. Harrison the Rival Commanders.

Charles W. Powers, Chairman of the Republican Town Executive Committee, is urging the members of the committee to look well after their respective districts next Tuesday.

Dr. W. F. Harrison will have general command of the Citizens' party on Tuesday, and will be assisted by a corps of able lieutenants.

The men whom Chairman Powers of the Republican Executive Committee will rely on to get out the Republican vote next Tuesday are Harry L. Osborne and James C. Brown of the First Ward, Charles F. Hummel and Tuntis Garabrant of the Second Ward, Charles B. Underhill and Frank Foster of the Third Ward.

Dr. Harrison will have the personal and advisory services of Charles Vogelius, Daniel J. Brady, M. N. Higgins, J. Milton Unangst, Peter J. Quilon, and others who have been more or less actively identified with local political contests of late years.

George Coraz, the Democratic party leader in the town, is trying the promoters of the Citizens' ticket the benefit of his advice in the campaign now on. He has a fine contest along strict party lines, and Coraz by virtue of his office will be in absolute command.

The Republican forces are better organized in the First Ward than any other part of the town, and Messrs. Osborne and Brown can command the loyal and efficient services of a band of trained political workers who are experts at getting out votes. The First Ward is good for a Republican majority of 200 on Tuesday, so some of the enthusiastic leaders say.

Charles Vogelius who will be held responsible for the First Ward's showing for the Citizens' ticket, speaks very hopefully of victory for that ticket, particularly in the Second District of the ward where Mr. Vogelius counts on at least 75 majority for Mr. Baker.

Charles F. Hummel, the Republican leader in the Second Ward is conceded, will have a hard fight on his hands Tuesday, but Mr. Powers expresses the greatest confidence in Mr. Hummel's ability to hold that ward in line for the Republican ticket. Mr. Hummel will have to contend against two tickets.

Dr. Harrison will take charge in person at the Second Ward polls for the Citizens' ticket on Tuesday.

James M. Walker who is going it alone this year, and making a single-handed fight against party organization and combination in the Second Ward expects to win out. Mr. Walker has been doing close personal work for some time past, and he thinks it will result in a rich harvest of votes on Tuesday.

Charles R. Underwood, the Republican leader in the First District of the Third Ward, is one of the most popular and highly esteemed young men in the district and an earnest conscientious worker for the success of the Republican ticket. He will have the able assistance of a number of veterans in local political fights, and Mr. Conlan ought to receive a large majority in his district.

Mr. Underwood will probably have to contend with the greatest political "jollies" in the town, J. Milton Unangst. Some people are disposed to discount the ability of Mr. Unangst to secure votes because he never appears to be exerting himself in that direction, but many a Republican vote has been misdirected by a little "jolly" from Mr. Unangst.

Frank Foster, the Third Ward, Second District, Republican leader, has a cosmopolitan voting population to handle that is hard to keep a line on in local contests, but with Mr. Peterson at the head of the Republican ticket the Second District ought to make a good showing Tuesday.

There is a strong annexation sentiment current in the Second District of the Third Ward and some of the advocates of that course are angry over the defeat of their project and are talking of getting square with some one on Tuesday.

M. N. Higgins, the Third Ward Democratic leader, will have personal charge of the opposition forces in the Second District of the Third Ward next Tuesday, and is confident that he will secure a big vote for the ticket he will represent.

## THE CANDIDATES.

POLITICAL COMPLEXION OF THE APPROACHING CONTESTS.

Battle Between Republicans and Democrats—If the Citizens' Ticket Wins, the Democratic Party Will Be in Control of the Town Council—Both Sides Confident.

While the contest at the polls next Tuesday will be in name a fight between the Republican and Citizens' parties, it will be in fact a struggle for supremacy between Republicans and Democrats. If the Citizens' ticket wins, the Town Council will be in control of the Democratic party, for every Councilman candidate on the Citizens' ticket is affiliated with that party in national and State affairs. (Bryanism of course excluded.)

For Councilman-at-Large the Republican party presents a liberal minded self-made man in its candidate, George Peterson of the Third Ward. As President of the Essex County Building and Loan Association, Mr. Peterson is known to the larger part of the thrifty elements in the town's population of whose savings the association has been the custodian for many years, and through which many people have secured their own homes. In his private business Mr. Peterson has been very successful, and has achieved a good reputation in business circles. There is no question but what if Mr. Peterson is elected, he will make an efficient presiding officer of the Town Council, and will be an influential factor in shaping the policy of the Council with respect to public affairs.

Allison Dodd, of the Second Ward, the Citizens' nominee for Councilman-at-Large, comes from an old and well-known Bloomfield family, and is well-known in social and church circles. He is in the wholesale coal business and has been very successful in that business. In politics he is a Democrat, although not actively prominent in party affairs, and it required much persuasion on the part of his colleagues to get him to head the ticket.

William Douglas Moore, the First Ward Republican nominee for Councilman-at-Large, is a lawyer by profession. He is a staunch Republican, and has taken an active part in the work of the First Ward Republican Club. Mr. Moore showed his deep interest in Bloomfield and its affairs in his opposition to the annexation bill. He stood second to no one in the amount of personal work that he did in opposition to annexation. He is an energetic young man and has made a host of friends here in Bloomfield.

Frank H. Baker, the Citizens' nominee for Councilman from the First Ward, is well known and highly esteemed throughout the town. He is a Democrat in politics, and has always been more or less identified with his party's work. Mr. Baker was for many years an active member of Essex Truck Company. He is an ardent Arcanumite and has a host of friends.

James J. Thompson, the Second Ward Republican nominee for Councilman, has been one of the representatives of that ward in the Council for the past two years, and his renomination for a second term is gratifying evidence that his course in the Council is approved by his constituency. Another evidence of Mr. Thompson's popularity in his own district is the fact that he is opposed by the Citizens' ticket. The Second Ward has obtained a good share of public improvements through the instrumentality of Mr. Thompson, and his renomination is a just appreciation of his services.

Former Councilman James M. Walker is contesting with Mr. Thompson for the honor of representing the Second Ward in the Council, and is making the contest along a purely independent line. Mr. Walker sought no party primary nomination or support, but is relying solely upon the free, untrammelled action of the people for his election.

Councilman John R. Conlan of the Third Ward is another member of the Council whose two years' course in that body has been approved by a unanimous renomination for a second term by the Republicans in both districts of the Third Ward, and by a vote at the primaries much larger than is usually polled at Third Ward Republican primaries. Mr. Conlan's career in the Council has been an active and positive one. He opposed the Lutheran Cemetery project in the Council on the ground that the town ought to be compensated for the franchise asked for by the cemetery company. Mr. Conlan early assumed an aggressive attitude against the methods of the Orange Water Company and advocated a new and more liberal contract, and endeavored to stir up a competition against the Orange Water Company. As Chairman of the Fire Committee for the past two years he has shown an

efficient and economical administration of that department of the local government.

Mr. Conlan will be opposed by former Councilman Thomas H. Albionson, nominated on the Citizens' ticket. Mr. Albionson is a Democrat in politics, but very conservative in his views and opinions. Two years ago he was defeated by Mr. Conlan for Councilman. The Third Ward is likely to be one of the most interesting points in next Tuesday's battle.

The fact of an entire absence of any appearance of a contest for member of the Board of Education denotes a general satisfaction with the present conducting of school affairs.

## REPUBLICAN CONVENTION.

A Large and Enthusiastic Gathering of Republicans Select George Peterson of the Third Ward to Head the Party Ticket at the Spring Election.

A large and enthusiastic gathering of Republicans filled Essex County Building and Loan Hall on Saturday evening of last week in attendance at the Republican Town Convention to nominate candidates for the offices to be filled at the spring election. James C. Brown presided over the convention, assisted by Samuel G. Hayter as Secretary.

The convention proceeded to nominations without much preliminary. The Second Ward presented the name of George Fisher as a candidate for the office of Councilman-at-Large, and the Third Ward presented the name of George Peterson.

On the first ballot the First District of the First Ward cast 12 votes for Peterson and 10 for Fisher. The Second District of that ward voted 10 for Fisher and 10 for Peterson. The Second Ward voted 6 for Fisher and 4 for Peterson. The Third Ward, First District, voted 5 for Peterson and 4 for Fisher, and the Second District of that ward cast its entire 10 votes for Peterson.

Before the result of the vote was announced the First District of the First Ward changed its entire vote to Peterson, and Mr. Fisher moved that Mr. Peterson's nomination be made unanimous. The unanimous action of the Second Ward candidate was greeted with applause and his motion carried without a dissenting vote.

The Chairman appointed Delegates Fisher of the Second Ward, Lawrence of the First Ward, and Powers of the Third Ward a committee to notify Mr. Peterson of his nomination and to bring the candidate before the convention. Mr. Peterson received an ovation when he was presented to the Chairman by the committee, and he made a brief but earnest speech accepting the nomination.

Three Justices of the Peace were nominated as follows: Charles H. Groshong, First Ward; Thomas Edmund Hayes, Second Ward; Howard M. Van Tassel, Third Ward.

Representation at the next convention was a subject of discussion. It was finally decided to fix it at one delegate for every 20 votes polled for the head of the ticket.

The First Ward Republican Convention was held on the same night, and nominated Wm. Douglas Moore for Ward Councilman and Antonio Federica for Constable. No nomination was made for member of the Board of Education from the First Ward.

The Third Ward Convention unanimously re-nominated John R. Conlan for Councilman and Charles W. Martin for member of the Board of Education.

## THE TICKETS

THAT WILL BE IN THE FIELD NEXT TUESDAY.

Straight Republican Citizens', and Independent Tickets—No Contest for Places on the School Board—Prospects for an Interesting Fight.

What promises to be one of the most interesting contests in local political circles that this town has witnessed in a long time, will begin at six o'clock next Tuesday morning, when the polls will open for the annual spring election. There will be a general fight throughout the town over the office of Councilman-at-Large, and in each ward over ward Councilmen.

The tickets that will be in the field are as follows: First Ward Republican ticket—Councilman-at-Large, George Peterson. Councilman, Wm. Douglas Moore. Constable, Antonio Federica. Justice of the Peace, Howard Van Tassel. It will be noted that the First Ward Republican ticket bears no name for member of the Board of Education, and no provision is made on the ticket for the convenient use of pastors of any candidate for that position.

The First Ward Citizens' ticket is as follows: Councilman-at-Large, Allison Dodd. Councilman, Frank H. Baker. Member of the Board of Education, Joseph F. Vogelius. Constables, John Finan, Edgar J. Whill. The First Ward Citizens' ticket names no candidate for Justice of the Peace.

The Second Ward has three tickets as follows: Republican ticket, Councilman-at-Large, George Peterson. Councilman, James J. Thompson. Member of the Board of Education, Thomas Oakes. Constable, William Fornoff. Justice of the Peace, Howard Van Tassel.

Second Ward Citizens' ticket, Councilman-at-Large, Allison Dodd. Member of the Board of Education, Thomas Oakes. The Second Ward's Citizens' ticket is blank on all other candidates. Second Ward Independent ticket, Councilman-at-Large, Allison Dodd. Councilman, James M. Walker. Member of the Board of Education, Thomas Oakes. The above three names are all that the Independent ticket bears.

Third Ward Republican ticket, Councilman-at-Large, George Peterson. Councilman, John R. Conlan. Member of the Board of Education, Charles W. Martin. Justice of the Peace, Howard Van Tassel.

Third Ward Citizens' ticket, Councilman-at-Large, Allison Dodd. Councilman, Thomas H. Albionson. Member of the Board of Education, Charles W. Martin.

The polls will open at six o'clock Tuesday morning and close at seven o'clock in the evening. The polling places are as follows:

First Ward, First District—Schneider's barber shop, 31 Broad Street. First Ward, Second District—Store, 140 Montgomery Avenue.

Second Ward, First District—Excelsior House, 379 Broad Street.

Third Ward, First District—Dodd's Hall, 287 Glenwood Avenue. Third Ward, Second District—Active House, 26 Willow Street.

## Want Improvements.

A delegation of Brookside Place property-owners was present at the Town Council meeting Monday night for the purpose of laying before the Council the particular needs of that street in the way of improvements. During the adjournment of the Council meeting the delegation did not have an opportunity to address the Council, but the members of the Council longed to take with Councilman Conlan on the condition and needs of that street, with the result that Mr. Conlan will take the matter in hand at the earliest opportunity.

## No Change to School Affairs.

The adoption of article 6 of the new school law by the voters on Tuesday, means that if the constitutionality of the act is upheld there will be no change in the management of public school affairs in this town. Members of the Board of Education will be chosen by popular vote at the annual spring election, and school appropriations will be fixed by a Board of Estimate made up of members of the school board and the Town Council.